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: S H O C H I K U :

Kabuki Play

" EDOSODACHI OMATSURI - SASHICHI "

Written by Shinshichi Kawatake.

A C T - II:

(TWO SCENES)

To be presented by Kikugoro Troupe

(Young Actors) at Mitsukoshi Theatre from

Feb. 4, 1948:-



" EDOSODACHI OMATSURI - SASHICHI "

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A C T - II

The Scene of Kan'emon's house at Renjakucho.

The Scene of Sashichi's house.

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Characters: Kan'emon, chief of firemen.
 Otatsu, her wife.
 Sashichi, a fireman.
 Koito, a geisha at Yanagibashi.
 O-Tetsu, her mother.
 Kusuke, a samisen-bearer.
 Tomijirō, son of the master of Yoshinoya.
 Yahei, a clerk of Yoshinoya.
 O-Cho, Sashichi's neighbour.

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Scene - I :

(The scene is that of Kan'emon's house at Renjakucho. Tomijiro stands in the middle Yoshimatsu, Kan'emon's follower, is trying to check him, while he is about to fight with Yahei, his father's clerk.)

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Yoshimatsu:	Put up with him, master Tomijiro.
Yahei:	Just strike me if you please, sir. I've just the same with striking your father to strike me. You'll be disowned and your girl will be dis- gusted with you.
Tomijiro:	It's no matter of yours. Go home, I say.
Yahei:	How impertinent of him -----.
Yoshi:	Wait a minute, Mr. Yahei. My boss takes care of him at his own dis- cretion. It's nothing of your concern.
Yahei:	Oh, my master, his father, thinks it improper of him to stay here and has sent me here.

Yoshi: He says so for respectability's sake.
It's your duty to modify his order.

Yahei: I don't like such a thing.

Tomi: It was he that carried tales to my
father. How impertinent of him.

Yahei: When did I tell tales? It's silly of
you to have led a dissolute life and
then resent others.

Tomi: How can I -----.

Yoshi: Just a minute, please.
(Kan'emon comes in.)

Kan'emon: Oh, you're here, Mr. Yahei?

Yahei: Come home, sir?

Kan: Oh, I saw you go out of your shop
just now, and now you're here. How is it?

Yahei: Well, my master told me this morning ---.

, Tomi: Oh, he fell in love with O-Naka, my girl,
and so ---/

Kan: Oh, you must be mistaken about it, Master
Tomijiro. Yahei is your father's head
clerk, and old enough to be thoughtful.

Yahei: Sure, I am. Well, I'd better not be
speaking to such a rash man.
(Goes out.)

Yoshi: Such a man.

Tomi: I'm sorry to trouble you so much. Yahei told my father about O-Naka and father got angry with me, you know.

Kan: I've talked with your father about it. Well, will you come in? Now, Yoshimatsu, you'll be here and tell me if anybody comes.

Yoshi: All right.

Tomi: How I hate that Yahei ---.

Kan: Come in, sir.

(The two go out. O-Tetsu, Koito's mother, comes in through the stage passage followed by Kusuke, the footman.)

Tetsu: Now, Kusuke, I don't know what to do. They're so obstinate.

Kusuke: Well, this is the house of their head fireman. We'd better play the hypocrite and implore him. Firemen make so much of chivalry. He'll manage things for us.

Tetsu: It's a good idea. Let's have a try.

Ku: That's it.

Tetsu: (At the door.) Good day.

Yoshi: Who's that?

Tetsu: I'm the mother of Koito of Yanagibashi. I've got something to ask of the Boss. Present us to him, please.

Yoshi: He's talking with someone else. I'll go and ask him if he can see you.

Tetsu: Please do.

Yoshi: Stay here for a moment. (Goes out.)

Ku: You've done well.

Tetsu: I'm not used to that kind of speaking.

Kan: (Coming in.) You're my visitor?

Tetsu: How do you do, Boss? Sorry to trouble you.

Kan: What have you got to ask of me?

Tetsu: Well, I'd be much obliged if you'll preach Mr. Sashichi, one of your men.

Kan: About what?

Tetsu: Well, sir, this is it. My daughter Koito has got a warrior patron. The day before yesterday, he took her to the Kanda festival, and, happy with wine, he flirted with her. Taking advantage of this, my daughter ran to Mr. Sashichi, your man, and I hear that you've given a consent to their plan. I'm quite at a loss about it.

I implore you to use your influence
so that my daughter may come home.

Kan:

You must be much vexed. And have
you been to Sashichi's?

Kusuke:

Oh, yes, sir, I accompanied her
the other day when she came to
live with Mr. Sashichi. I feel
myself responsible about it, so
that I've accompanied this old lady
and asked him to return her daughter.
But his only answer is that the very
girl doesn't like it. We won't like
to plead to the authorities, for it'll
be a disgrace for you. I've advised
her mother to come here and implore
you.

Tetsu:

I've brought her up ever since she
was just five. I'll have a hard time
of it without her. Please pity me and
see that she'd come home.

Kan:

All right, it's nothing for me to go
and make Sashichi give you back your
daughter. But it'll be better if my
wife go for me.

Tatsu: (Coming in) I've heard all the story.
It's not like Sashichi to be so rash.

Yoshi: He always preach his fellowmen for
being rash. I don't understand how it
is.

Tetsu: Are you Mrs. Kan'emon?

Tatsu: How do you do? You must be much
worried.

Tetsu: Thank you for your husband's service.

Tatsu: Don't worry any more.

Yoshi: Sashichi never acts against our Boss.

Kusuke : The famous husband has got a good wife.

Tetsu: Thank you so much.

Tatsu: Just a minute, please. (Puts on her
coat.) Take care of Master Tomijiro,
Yoshimatsu.

Yoshi: All right.

Kan: Go at once.

Tatsu: Well, good-bye.

Yoshi: Just a minute, mistress. (Edorcized.)

Tatsu: It's too kind of you.

Yoshi: You're to have a negotiation.

Kan: Well done for Yoshimatsu.
(The stage goes round.)

S C E N E - II

(Sashichi's house. A small kitchen in the left-hand. Spades and fire-hooks hang on the wall. When the Stage stops, Koito is making fire. Sankichi Sashichi's servant, is boiling rice. O-Tane, a young girl of the neighbourhood, is cooking.)

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Tane: Oh, don't blow so much. All the house will be smoked.

San: I'm good at putting out a fire, but, as for making one, its rather out of mine line.

Koito: Sashichi is very late to come home.

San: He's to the barbers.

Koito: It was admirable of him to have turned away my strong-hearted mother-in-law.

San: She couldn't insist, of course, for she knows she's to blame.

Tane: She ~~þ~~ looked so fierce. But I felt so glad when she went discouraged.

Koito: She'll ask someone to take me back.

~~tut/tut/anybody/who/comes/for/her/~~

San: Oh, don't worry. Sashichi and I will
turn back anybody who comes for her.

Koito: I'll be so happy to stay here.

Tane: Has the water been boiled?

Koito: Not yet, but very soon.
(Sashichi comes in through the stage
passage followed by a restaurant boy.)

Sashichi: Hullo, O-Tane.

Tane: Welcome home.

San: You've been so late.

Sashichi: I've dropped in at Natsuko's and had
three dishes of Sashimi made.

San: Hum, that's good.

Boy: May I leave them here?

San: Thanks.

Boy: (Glancing at Koito) A pretty bride.

San: What?)

Boy: (Recites a piece of gidayu while going
out.)

San: Such a boy,

Koito: You're so late, Sashichi.

Tane: We've been talking much about you.

Sashichi: That's why I've sneezed. Well, get
ready the table.

Tane: What about sake?

Koito: I'll attend to it myself.

Sashichi: I have a moky smell.

San: It's the rice.

Tane: Oh, examine it.

San: It's quite burnt.

Tane: I said. I'd do it.

San: You've got to have noticed it sooner.

Koito: Oh, I'm to blame.

Sashichi: All right. Let's buy some boiled rice.

Tane: I'll go home and fetch some, for
we've got much of cold boiled rice.

San: Do so, then.

Tane: I'll warm it before bringing.
(Goes out.)

San: I think I'll have a bath first.

Sashichi: Let's have a cup or two first.

San: I'll drink after coming back.

Koito: Don't be too late to come.

San: All right. Just some minutes.
(Goes out with a towel in his hand.)

Koito: Is O-Tane very intimate with Sankichi?

Sashichi: I don't know. She often comes and helps
us bachelors.

Koito: I'll be so happy if I could stay here.

Sashichi: Well, you'll be disgusted of our poverty in less than three days, I'm sure. But, as you've passed two nights with me, be reconciled to your fate and be my wife.

Koito: I'll be so happy to do so. I'm under obligation to my mother for having brought me up ever since I was five, so I've got to work somewhere after all, but don't forget me even when we live apart and think me as your wife, please.

Sashichi: I I promise you to be always fathful to you. You, promise me.

Koito: Oh, I'm so happy.

Sashichi: Well, you said you were adopted when you were five. Don't you know who your real parents were?

Koito: I've got no clue at all. Only what I know is that my father was a warrior.

Sashichi: I wish I could know all about it for you.

Koito: We'll have chances by and by. Well, I've heard that you had a quarrel with the Kaga footmen at the festival last year. Do you bear grudge for them?

Sashichi: The Kaga clan is my father's enemy.

Koito: How is it?

Sashichi: My father was a well-known plasterer here in Kanda. He suffered from paralysis for three years. It was in April last year that he went to his doctor's leaning over his cane, when he rushed against the procession of the Kaga lord, thrust away and soon died for the wound. My mother, too, died for lamentation. So the Kaga valets are the enemies of both my parents.

Well, at the September festival, Hachidayu Umeda, the chief of the valets, stood in the way of our float. We were having a fierce fight, when officers came to calm both the party. I was very glad to ashame the Kaga warrior and carry you off with me.

Koito: It's reasonable of you to resent the Kaga clan. I won't give myself to such a man. Never forsake me, please.

Sashichi: We've made a promise with each other. We're bound for life.

(Just then, O-Tatsu, O-Tetsu and Kusuke come into stage. O-Tatsu knocks at the door/ the others hide themselves.)

Tatsu: Good day.

Sashichi: Oh, welcome, mistress. (Hides Koito behind him.)

Tatsu: (Sitting down.) Sorry to disturb you. Thanks for your trouble yesterday.

Sashichi: Oh, I just hurried there, worried about Master Tomijiro, but I felt easy for Yoshimatsu had saved him out of danger.

Tatsu: Yes, but, after that, Yahei the clerk told tales to the old master so that Master Tomijiro was turned out of his house and is now staying with us.

Sashichi: So he is? Yahei is a bad man. No one knows what he has said to the old master. (Pointing to Koito.)

Well, this woman here ---.

Tatsu: Oh, I know her already. She's a well-known geisha at Yanagibashi, I hear.

Sashichi: Sorry I'm late to present her. Now, Koito, this lady here is the wife of my benefactor.

Koito: How do you do? My name is Koito,

Tatsu: I'd be very happy if I could get friendly with you. I'm sorry but I've got something awkward to tell you.

Sashichi: Oh, what's that?

Tatsu: I've been asked by this girl's mother.

Koito: Why -----.

Sashichi: Oh, did she go to yours?

Tatsu: Well, this is it:

She said that she would have a hard time of it without her daughter, for she is the only one to take care of her. She asked my husband to preach you and make her girl go home. He had nothing to do but make me come here, for he is a fireman and is to make much of chivalry.

Her mother made a geisha of her for love of money, of course, but my husband has

made her promise never to force her to yield to a man she doesn't like. I should think you should let her go and she should go home to her mother. What do you think?

Sashichi:

Well, as you say, I'll have to let her go if her mother pleads for that. But it's quite different from what I heard from Koito. Isn't it that she feigns gentleness?

Koito:

I don't know how it is. She came here just now and tried to take me willy-nilly.

Sashichi:

So we turned her off giving tit for tat. She and Kusuke aren't so innocent as you think.

Tatsu:

They may be bad. But my husband and I have made her promise never to force her daughter to obey to a man she doesn't like. Will you go home, Koito?

Koito:

I'm under obligation to her I think. I'll go home if she won't be unjust.

Tatsu:

I'm glad both of you say so. Well,

I'll call the mother here and give
an advice to her.

Tetsu: (At the door.) Oh, I've heard all.

Kusuke: Hallo.

Sashichi: Have you heard all?

Tetsu: Sorry I was rather rude just now.

Tatsu: Koito says that she'll go home if you
won't force her to yield to unwelcome
guests I advise you never to forget
your promise that you won't be ty-
ranical.

Tetsu: Certainly, ma'am. I've got a hard
lesson now. Now, Mr. Sashichi, I
ask you to visit my daughter very often.
I'm so much obliged to you for saving
my only daughter out of danger.

Sashichi: I can't be but gentle now that you
speak so reasonably.

Koito: Do you really mean what you say,
mother?

Tetsu: I've made up my mind to mend my way.

Kusuke: She has passed two sleepless nights,
worried about you. She repents she
was avaricious. She was rude just
now only because she wanted so much
to have you come back.

Tatsu: I'm so glad it's been settled.
You'd better take your daughter
before the rumour runs.

Tatsu: Oh, thank you. Give her the change
of clothes, Kusuke.

Kusuke: Here it is.

Koito: Am I to go home at once, then?

Sashichi: You'd better go home now. I'll come
to you soon.

Tatsu: Come to us this evening, will you?
We're as good as relations now.

Tatsu: Get ready, Koito. Your mother is so
kind.

Kusuke: Will you change your clothes here?

Koito: No, in the next room. (Goes out with
the clothes.)

Tatsu: I think I'll go home and tell my
husband that all has settled well.

Sashichi: Sankichi the boy is to the bath house.
Wait for him, will you? He'll see
you home.

Tatsu: Oh, I can't stay long for I've got to
take care of Master Tomijiro.
(O-Tatsu goes out. Soon Koito comes
into stage having changed her clothes.)

Koito: Well, Sashichi, be sure and come to
ours.

Sashichi: Be sure and never flirt with other men.

Koito: Not for the world.

Tetsu: Well, shall we go home?

Koito: I'll be waiting for you in the evening.

Sashichi: Well, I may, but it'll be rather improper for me to go this very evening.

Tetsu: Don't be too discrete Koito is a geisha, you know.

Sashichi: May I?

Tetsu: You're welcome.

Koito: How happy I am. My mother's so kind.

Kusuke: Well, it's getting dark. Let's go at once.

Tetsu: Well, I'll be waiting for you, Sashichi.

Sashichi: All right. I'll be with you soon.

Kusuke: Good-bye.

Tetsu: My regards to Boss Kan'emon.
(At the threshold) Where are your sandals, Koito?

Koito: Oh, I just ran out bare-footed through the garden.

Sashichi: Just wait for a minute, I'll borrow a pair from Mr. O-Tatsu.

Tetsu: Oh, don't worry, please. I'll buy one for her.

Sashichi: Could you find a good one?

Tetsu: Sure we could. This is a fancy place.

Sashichi: Just use mine till you buy one.

Koito: Oh, thanks. (Puts on Sashichi's sandal.)

Sashichi: They don't fit you, I'm afraid.

Tetsu: Oh, she's quite content, for they're yours.

(The three go out, Koito rather reluctant to leave Sashichi. Kusuke and O-Tetsu look at each other and thrust out their tongues.)

Sashichi: (After a pause) Though we've been intimate with each other for a long time, I've never loved her so well as I do now. She stayed here for two days and now I think her my wife. I rather regret that I've complied with their request and given her up. (He takes the wine-bottle and warms it.) (Sankichi comes into the stage passage with his towel in his hand.)

San: You haven't sent her back, have you?

Sashichi: It was far from my intention, but I couldn't but let her go, for Mrs. O-tatsu came here and asked me to give her back to her mother.

San: Was it so? But she should have insisted on staying even for life. It may be that she has changed her mind.

Sashichi: Oh, no. Her mother consented with my going to see her this evening.

San: Are you sure? Isn't she disgusted of your poverty?

Sashichi: You don't say so. She is quite sure.

San: You'd better go and see how it is as soon as you can.

Sashichi: Well, I've promised to go, but it's rather disreputable if I go this evening.

San: Oh, you'll be to blame if you break your promise.

Sashichi: All right, I'll go. Let's have a drink first.

San: You're welcome, for it's what I do want.

Sashichi:

Ah, I told you I'd let you.

(Taking up the bottle.)

How hot. It's burning like my heart.

(The curtain falls with the sound of
wooden clappers.)

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